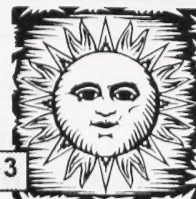


Let's Talk Agriculture



SUMMER 1998

Volume 5 Issue 3

Alberta
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Lygus Bug and your Canola

Lygus bug on canola can cause up to 20% yield loss at podding time due to sucking damage on the seeds in the pod. Lygus bug can be controlled with insecticides applied aerially at this time.

Check your canola fields regularly at late flowering to early podding for lygus bug. Population levels over 1.5 to 2 lygus per sweep net can warrant spraying.

Contact your Crop Specialist with Alberta Agriculture for lygus bug identification.



County Plots

Curtis Webber has coordinated County of Parkland Agriculture Service Board plots for cereal and oilseed varieties.

Limagrain and Zeneca canola plots have been seeded at Darren Frank's farm while barley varieties have been sown at Keith and Dale Berry's farm. Wheat was seeded at Martin Kanehl's farm and oats was seeded at Harvey Wentland's farm.

AFSC Insurance Update...

Remember... if you want to preharvest or put to another use an insured crop (i.e. silage, greenfeed, pasture or plow down), you must contact the district office for an inspection. Adjusters will examine the crop to determine its yield potential. To be eligible, insured acreage must not be destroyed prior to inspection.

Straight hail insurance is also available at the Stony Plain district office until October 30, 1998. Phone or come in for premium rates and coverage information.

NOTE: The Hail Insurance Policy is effective at noon the day following the signing of the application.

For more information, call Bette at 963-0600.

AFSC Lending Update...

FIDP (Farm Income Disaster Program)


In response to requests from farmers and accountants, the Minister has decided to allow additional time for submission of supporting information on FIDP claims for the 1997 tax year.

Farmers are required to file the first page of the FIDP application along with a \$50 application fee by July 31, 1998. The remainder of the application must be submitted by September 30, 1998. If farmers choose not to submit the rest of the application by September 30, 1998, their cheques for the application fee will **not** be cashed.

Upcoming Tour Scheduled

County of Parkland Agriculture Services is hosting a tour on August 6, 1998 starting at Holborn Hall. Registration is from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$10/person, which includes lunch and a steak BBQ. Contact Mark Cardinal @ 968-8467 to register.

- Stops will include alternative livestock, potatoes, rotational grazing, variety plots and honey production.



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Staff Update

We have recently had some changes at the Alberta Agriculture, AFSC and Farm Credit Corporation offices:

Diane Shepherd, Customer Service Representative, has retired after 30 years of service with Alberta Agriculture. Congratulations to Diane and best wishes for many happy retirement years!

Sandy Hustins has returned full time to Alberta Agriculture and AFSC - Lending as our Customer Service Representative, after working under contract with Farm Credit Corporation for the past 3 1/2 years. Welcome back Sandy!

Bev Badry recently joined our team as Office Assistant with Farm Credit Corporation. Bev was previously working in the FCC Edmonton office. Welcome Bev!

You may also occasionally hear the friendly voice of **Julie Balascak** on the phone as Julie fills in this summer for Sandy, during holidays and busy peaks. Welcome Julie!

Last but not least, welcome to **Faye McNamara** as our new relief Insurance Administrator, working with Bette Strass in AFSC - Insurance.

Farm Credit Corporation

Specialized Financing for Canada's Agriculture Industry

Can FCC's **Family Farm Farm Loan** help you?

See FCC if you are considering transferring the family farm to the next generation. Here are some of the **benefits**:

- * as low as 10% down
- * up to 20 year amortization
- * lower overall interest costs to your farm
- * helps you grow your own family farm
- * possibility of tax or estate planning benefits to seller

For more information, talk to your FCC Credit Advisor, **Glen Svenungard**, at (403) 963-6547.

Crop Diversification Centre - North

Special Crops Field Day

This is your chance to see 150 different species of special crops being evaluated for their potential in Alberta, including: **quinoa, millet, St. Johnswort, echinacea, caraway and coriander.**

Date: Thursday, July 30/98

Time: Registration - 12 - 12:45 pm
Tours - 1:00 - 4:30 pm

Place: CDC North (located Northeast Edmonton on 175 Ave & Fort Rd)

Cost: \$10/person
(cheques payable to AARI)

Space is limited, so **call 422-1789 soon to register!**

Safe Food Practices for Small Processors

Marketing food to the public carries a lot of responsibility. Of course, your product has to taste good, but it also has to be free of contamination. Food safety should be a main concern for any company producing a food product.

This video can help show you the way to ensuring a contaminant-free product.

It outlines the basics of good manufacturing practices and points out a number of steps you can follow to make sure your food is safe.

Whether you're an emerging business selling your product at Alberta-approved farmers' markets or a growing business selling your product into the specialty food market, this video is for you! Comes complete with an information package.

Call our office today to reserve a copy.



AG-VENTURES

Agriculture Business Profiles

New factsheets are now available in this series:

- **Commercial Cattle Feeding Industry**
- **Commercial Beef Industry: Cow/Calf**
- **Commercial Honey Industry**

Stop in and pick up a copy.

Alberta Agriculture, Food & Rural Development
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation - Lending and Insurance Divisions
Farm Credit Corporation

4709 - 44 Avenue
Provincial Building
STONY PLAIN AB T7Z 1N4
PH: (403) 963-6101
FAX: (403) 963-4709
E-MAIL: duke@agric.gov.ab.ca

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